

Message Text

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61-L
ORIGIN AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 PM-04

NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 L-03 H-02 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

DODE-00 PRS-01 SAM-01 IO-11 /070 R

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APPROVED BY AF:WESCHAUFLE
EUR/WE:WKELLY
----- 109656

O P 162221Z FEB 76 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY LISBON NIACT IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 037673

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:PFOR, AO, US, PO

SUBJECT:POSSIBLE GOP RECOGNITION OF MPLA

REF: A) LISBON 1010
B) STATE 037563

1. THE DEPARTMENT DESIRES TO URGE THE PORTUGUESE TO WITH-
HOLD IMMEDIATE RECOGNITION OF THE MPLA AND TO ENCOURAGE
THEM INSTEAD TO ASSOCIATE THEMSELVES, ALBEIT INDIRECTLY,
WITH A EUROPEAN APPROACH THAT WILL BE DESIGNED TO PRESENT
A STRONG, UNIFIED POSITION TO THE MPLA AND OFFER RECOGNI-
TION LINKED WITH STRONG ENCOURAGEMENT TO MPLA TO OBTAIN
THE WITHDRAWAL OF SOVIET/CUBAN TROOPS AND EFFECT NATIONAL
RECONCILIATION. WE HAVE HAD REFTEL B REPEATED TO YOU AS
A NIACT IMMEDIATE ADDRESSEE TO FURTHER EXPLAIN OUR POSI-
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TION AND PROVIDE YOU WITH ARGUMENTS TO USE WITH SOARES.

2. WE WERE INFORMED BY THE FRENCH THAT THEY ARE CONTEMPLATING EARLY RECOGNITION OF THE MPLA AND WE HAVE MADE OUR VIEWS KNOWN TO THEM IN EXPANDED AND MORE FORCEFUL TERMS THAN REFTEL B. WE HAVE NO INDICATION WHETHER OUR APPROACH WILL HAVE ITS DESIRED EFFECT IN PARIS, OR WITH THE OTHER NINE FOR THAT MATTER, AND WE ARE NOT OPTIMISTIC.

3. REQUEST YOU MAKE THE POINTS RAISED IN REFTEL B WITH SOARES AND ASK HIM TO PERSUADE COSTA GOMES TO WITHHOLD RECOGNITION LONG ENOUGH TO SEE HOW THE NINE REACT TO OUR APPROACH. YOU CAN ASSURE HIM WE HAVE NO INTENTION OF MOVING NOW TO RECOGNIZE THE MPLA. INGERSOLL

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